

Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Parish

4 HARTLEY STREET, P.O. BOX 9, ALICE SPRINGS NT 0871

Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Parish, strengthened by the Word of God, is united by our Sacramental Life into a Covenant to make Jesus the Christ known and loved in Central Australia.



Parish Contacts:

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Deadline for Bulletin submissions is Wednesday 5:00pm.

Facebook Page: Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Parish

Parish Office Hours:
Monday to Friday
8:30 am - 12 noon
Saturday and Sunday—Closed

Parish Priest:

Fr Asaeli Raass SVD

Assistant Parish Priests:

Fr Prakash Menezes SVD
Fr Olivier Noclam SVD

Resident Priest:

Fr. Jim Knight SVD

Parish Council Chairman

Mr Manfred Casseeram

Liturgy Coordinator

Sr. Anne Surtees OSU

Sacristan

Ms Sue Bain

RCIA Director

Sr. Helen Kennedy FMM

Parish Secretary:

Mel Buenviaje

Safety & Health Officer

Mr Fred Twohig

Parish Treasurer

Mr Kevin Hickmott

OLSH College Principal

Br. Matthew Green, FMS

St. Joseph Flexible Centre

Mr. Ben Ebert

Community Liaison Coordinator

Ms Michele Castagna

Parish Mass Schedule:

Monday to Friday: 7 am & 5:30 pm
Saturday 11 am & (Sun Vigil) 6 pm
Sunday 7:30am, 9:30 am & 5:30 pm

Ngkarte Mikwekenhe Community

1st, 3rd, 4th (and 5th) Sundays of the month - 11am *Aboriginal Community Mass at South Terrace*. 2nd Sunday of the month— 11 am *Aboriginal Community Mass at Amoonguna, Southeast of Alice Springs, off the Ross Highway*.

Reconciliation:

Saturday 11:30 am & 5:30 pm

Baptism: By appointment: one month's notice required.

2nd Sunday of the month. Formation of parents falls on the 1st Monday of the month. 7:00 pm—8:00 pm

Marriage:

By appointment only, 12 months' notice required.



Jubilee Year of Mercy

“Merciful like the Father”

“My thoughts now turn to the Mother of Mercy...No one has penetrated the profound mystery of the incarnation like Mary. Her entire life was patterned after the presence of mercy made flesh. The Mother of the Crucified and Risen One has entered the sanctuary of divine mercy because she participated intimately in the mystery of his love”, Pope Francis, *Misericordiae Vultus*, Question for Week 7: How about composing your own *Magnificat* this week and sharing it with your family and neighbour?

The Ascension of the Lord Year C 7th - 8th May 2016

STAY IN THE CITY

During our weekly Bible Sharing this week, I was struck by the word ‘stay’ in the Gospel of Luke 24:46-53. On Ascension Sunday Jesus instructed his disciples, “I am sending down to you what the Father promised. **Stay** in the city then until....” It continues to bug me as I write this reflection.

I believe to ‘stay’ is one of God’s immensely sweeping invitations. To *stay in the city* is to wait expectantly with open hands and hearts for the descend of the Holy Spirit, for the movement of God within us. This is easier said than done. You see to wait on God requires a relinquishment of control that gets at the roots of our motivations, fears and idolatries. I know in my own life that while I wait for coffee in town or for a volunteer to raise his or her hand or for healing to take place or for someone to reply to my email, I am gradually aware of my naked vulnerability of trust. Sometimes my heart did flip flops. My stomach ached and am very self-conscious. To wait or stay unearths what is in our hearts and unconscious world. Yes it exposes what happens when my expectations go unmet. At times it may expose our doubts & how control freak we are as well as a begrudging and complaining heart.

Everyone waits and it is a central, universal fact of life. It is frustrating and crippling to wait. Wait. Wait some more. We cry, HURRY UP! WHAT IS HE DOING? GET IT NOW! I CAN’T HANDLE IT ANY MORE!

Are we addicted to SPEED? I am not referring to this potent drug methamphetamine but addiction to instant access, quick results, fast food, fast lines, fast lanes, quick divorces and express delivery.

Friends in Christ, on this Ascension Sunday Jesus teaches us a very big lesson to wait or ‘stay in the city’...in patience. This is a characteristic of God in the Bible. “*I am worn out calling for help; my throat is parched*” (Psalm 6:3). “*But for me I watch in hope for the Lord*” (Mic 7:7). And St Paul wrote, “*For creation waits in eager expectation for the children of God to be revealed*” (Rom 8:19).

Waiting for God’s promise of the Holy Spirit is not an act of passive resignation. To ‘stay in the city’ means to wait on God, to wait for the Holy Spirit. It means to be alert to the present moment, to stay or wait long enough for *when*, not *if*, the Holy Spirit will come through. Lets not forget that God’s presence is mostly quiet and hidden like a plant growing silently as we sleep or like baby lying helpless in the straw, gently drawing us, but also helpless in itself to make us pick it up.

Happy Mother’s Day to all mothers and caregivers and may the Holy Spirit who lies within us and around us, gently nudge our hearts to love more and more each day.

Fr Raass SVD

We acknowledge the original custodians of this land and pay our respects to the Elders both past, present and future for they hold the memories, the traditions, the culture and hopes of Indigenous Australia. As we share our faith within our Catholic family we also acknowledge those that paved the way to give us our Church and Parish and welcome all into our community.

Daily Readings: starting 9 May 2016

Mon: Acts 19:1-8 Jn 16:29-33
Tues: Acts 20:17-27 Jn 17:1-11
Wed: Acts 20:28-38 Jn 17:11-19
Thur: Acts 22:30,23:6-11 Jn 17:20-26
Fri: Acts 25:13-21 Jn 21:15-19
Sat: Acts 1:15-17,20-26 Jn 15:9-17
Sun: Acts 2:1-11
Rom 8:8-17 Jn 14:15-16,23-26

+ Pray & read your Bible every day +



Please pray for the elderly and those who are sick

May Shah, Bernadette Dowd, Clare Edwards, Mary Dick, Colleen Matson, Georgina Gilbert, Kathy Golotta, Gesu Golotta, Eufelia Canta and Helena Monaghan

May the Lord grant them healing.

New OLSH Parish Adult Faith & Culture Discussion Group

The Parish Pastoral Council has endorsed a weekly Monday Adult formation to discuss issues of faith and culture and how they affect our lives today. The Social Justice Awareness Group will kick off from June **06 June for an hour from 6:30pm-7:30pm at the JP2 Hall** focusing on Pope Francis "Laudato Si" or "Care for our Common Home" culminating with a workshop by Dr Jacqui Jacqui Remond, National Director for Catholic Earthcare Australia set up by Australian Bishops Conference. SJAGers will run for six consecutive Mondays before we change to other relevant themes. More details later. All parishioners are invited to attend these Monday evening discussion groups.

Devotional Practices:

Prayers of the Holy Rosary
Monday to Thursday 5pm

Saint Joseph's Devotion
First Wednesday of the month 9am
Contact: Cathy Golotta 8952 1991

Syro-Malayalam (Indian) Fellowship
Sunday 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm (Home Based)

Eucharistic Adoration
Every Fridays from 6-7pm and every second Saturday of the month from 3-4 pm at Missionaries of Charity Convent, 12 Standley Crescent.

Christian Meditation (Presbytery Chapel)
Thursday 12:00 - 12:30pm

Weekly Bible Sharing
Wednesdays 6:15pm -7:30pm

Mothers' Praying for Your Children
Thursday night at 6:15pm - 7:15pm

Divine Office—Liturgy of the Hours
Monday to Friday 6:45am

Adult Faith & Culture Discussion
Mondays only from 6:30pm: *06 June start*

Spiritual Direction

In this world of rapid transition and multi-faceted forms of life and other directions thrown at us, it seems very difficult to relate them to our life of faith or direction in Christ. Many Catholics are now confused at the way the secular world is seducing them by its fascinating products. Our lives are now defined by all sorts of occupations and attractions that consciously or unconsciously betray the image of God in us. We take on new patterns of living but we are unsatisfied and still we forge ahead, often in directions that have no real meaning for us because they are at odds with our inner invitation in the light of Christ's teachings.

Welcome to the ministry of Spiritual Direction whose simple goals, according to our five experienced Directors are , *'to discover myself and my place in God's world', helping to discern God's call', grow in your relationship with God', respond to God's invitation', 'take God seriously'* or wherever the Spirit leads. Spiritual Direction is part of our Christian formation practised by the early Fathers and continues on today. OLSH Parish is happy to announce that we have five trained Spiritual Directors



Sr Helen Kennedy FMM



Mr David Woods



Br Tony Caddy Fms



Sr Anne Surtees OSU



Fr Asaeli Raass SVD

who are happy to avail themselves for spiritual direction. More details and how they understand their ministry are available at the back of the church. Your choice of who might be the most suitable person for you.

REALITY EVENT, WILLY GRAHAM

Will Graham, grandson of Dr Billy Graham, is an evangelist who is going to share the Gospel in partnership with local churches and believers at the "Reality" event in Alice Springs in this month of May 2016 at Blatherskite Park. *Events include: Youth Event: Friday 7:30 pm; Kids Fest/Carnival: Saturday 10:00 am; Family Event: Saturday 7:00 pm; Combined Church: Sunday 10 am & Finale: Sunday 7:00 pm.* More pamphlets at the back of the church.



HAPPY Mothers' Day

This Ascension Sunday in many countries including Australia celebrate Mother's Day. We remember with gratitude and affection all our dear mothers: those who live with us physically, mothers in detention and mothers who are worrying about their children in detention, gaol or have left home but also those who live with us spiritually. May the Lord bless them all, and may the Mother of God, to whom this month is dedicated, watch over them all. Flowers will be gifted to all mothers including women who are in a caring role – as always - courtesy of Ms Michele Castagna. Thanks Michele.

God's Hospitality Workshop

The workshop for all members of the hospitality team and any parishioner who is interested to learn more about this important ministry will be on **Saturday, 14th May from 2pm to 4:30pm at the OLSH Presbytery** meeting room. Sr Anne Surtees OSU is the workshop facilitator.

WELCOME!

OLSH Parish WELCOMES all new parishioners and their families. Please do not hesitate to introduce yourself to any of the priests or members of the Parish Council. We hope you will enjoy your stay with us and contribute to the reign of God. in Central Australia.

Year of Mercy Adult Workshops & Retreats,
OLSH Parish

Saturday, 21st May, 9am-4:00pm

Workshop: **The Ecological Blessing of Mercy**
All invited at St Francis Centre (Donations only) by Sr Veronica Lawson, PhD, RSM, Author & Biblical scholar, taught for 27 years at ACU.

Saturday, 27th August, 9am-4pm

Workshop & Seminar: **What is the Mission of the Church Today in this Jubilee Year of Mercy?** All invited at St Francis Centre (Donations only) by Professor (Fr) Roger Schroeder PhD, SVD, Professor of Intercultural Studies, Chicago, USA

Friday 7th October (pm) Saturday 8th to Sunday 9th (midday)

Spiritual Retreat: **Parish Retreat In this Year of Mercy:**
To be facilitated by Sr Anne Surtees OSU, Spiritual Director, Provincial Ursuline Sisters Leadership Team, Former Director of Center Care Pastoral Ministries, Brisbane. *Venue and Costs: TBA*



Diamond Jubilee Celebration

OLSH Parish is celebrating **Sr. Margaret Reis FDNSC 60th Diamond Jubilee in Vows on Saturday, May 28st** and the Hospitality Team is looking for help to make this a wonderful celebration. So please sign-up at the front of the church for help and/or food and let's thank Sr. Margaret for all her great works and love to our Church. She arrived here in September 1961.

Child Protection Law Education, OLSH Parish

OLSH Parish is happy to announce that *Relationships Australia, Women Legal Services and the Multicultural Community Services of Central Australia* are happy to work with OLSH Parish to run an awareness workshop on parental responsibilities and children's rights. *Did you know that your child is not your property? Are parents allowed to give corporal punishment to their children in Australia as a disciplinary measure? What constitutes child abuse? What is this thing about mandatory reporting?* If you have just arrived in Australia from overseas and unsure of your parental responsibilities and child's rights, then here is your free workshop for all parents, caregivers and all cultural groups. Please do not wait until the cookie breaks! It is an expensive exercise if any of us breaks the law. **Come to the JP2 Hall on June 4th from 3-4pm** to be facilitated by Julia Parkin, a legal practitioner. Contact Anileen Benstead 89528776.

Cleaning: 14 May 2016 **Group 3**
Fred & Lyn Twohig, Jim & Clare Lorkin

Counters: 15 May 2016
Margaret McNaught

Last Week's Collections:
1st Collection: \$ 1,294.20 (for the presbytery)
2nd Collection: \$ 720.00 (for the parish)
Planned Giving: \$1,065.00

Thank you for your generosity!

Groups please remember to keep the Bulletin team informed if you change your days/times etc.

Telephone Tree Ministry & Community Inclusivity



Hello, it's me again, Michele. I would like to invite anyone who wants to come and chat. I will be available every Thursday from 1pm-3pm at the presbytery. This day is not set in concrete so I am open to having it another day if that is what many parishioners want. Let me know by leaving a message with Mel at the presbytery. I am here to simply listen to anyone who has a worry on his/her mind, a personal problem and community assistance on what's available in town. Come and give me a try. The telephone tree is beginning to grow and don't forget to give the telephone numbers of anyone of may benefit from a listening ear. All matters will be treated confidentiality and respect. Don't not worry about your English, it's good enough for me. God bless you and crash down my door!



L'Arche Community in Alice Springs – God's calling?

L'Arche is a movement that provides a place where **the gifts of people with an intellectual disability can be revealed in mutually transforming relationships.** This could just be through a friendship, meeting for discussion, regular social gatherings, or in a residential community.

There are currently 5 ecumenical L'Arche communities in Australia and 4 Friends of L'Arche groups, and over 130 communities worldwide. L'Arche seeks to be a sign of hope in a broken world - hope for unity, love, and a society where people of all abilities are welcomed and cherished. The mystery of people with disabilities is that they long for authentic and loving relationships more than for power. They are not obsessed with being well- situated in a group that offers acclaim and promotion. They are crying out for what matters most: love. And God hears their cry because in some way they respond to the cry of God, which is to give love. Jean Vanier.

Do you have experience of a L'Arche community, wish to know more about this movement or would like to help establish a Friends of L'Arche network here in Alice Springs?? Contact Carol Muir carolmckc@hotmail.com or via text 0425484821

Roster for weekend of 14 - 15 May 2016

	Commentator	Readers	Ministers
Sat 6pm pm	John Appleby	Sr Mary Wicks Sr Anne Surtees	M Maddocks R Fernandes David Fernandes
Sun 7:30 am	Kath McGargill	M McNaught Ruth Sexton	Greg Gilbert Rita Steller Mike Steller
Sun 9:30 am	Bro Matthew Green	Lennie Sumang Tony Hay	Mark Bensted M Lillecrapp H Casseeram
Sun 5:30 pm	Mel Buenviaje	Dennis Simon Tinna Buenviaje	Thampi Joseph Thomas J John Marieta Ives

The Ascension of the Lord Year C

7th –8th May 2016

Entrance Antiphon:

Ps 67:33,35

You kingdoms of the earth, sing to God; praise the Lord, who ascends above the highest heavens; his majesty and might are in the skies, alleluia.

First Reading:

Acts 1:1-11

Why are you standing here looking into the sky? Jesus has been taken into heaven

In my earlier work, Theophilus, I dealt with everything Jesus had done and taught from the beginning until the day he gave his instructions to the apostles he had chosen through the Holy Spirit, and was taken up to heaven. He had shown himself alive to them after his Passion by many demonstrations: for forty days he had continued to appear to them and tell them about the kingdom of God. When he had been at table with them, he had told them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for what the Father had promised. 'It is' he had said 'what you have heard me speak about: John baptised with water but you, not many days from now will be baptised with the Holy Spirit.' Now having met together, they asked him, 'Lord, has the time come? Are you going to restore the kingdom to Israel? He replied, 'It is not for you to know times or dates that the Father has decided by his own authority, but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and then you will be my witnesses not only in Jerusalem but throughout Judaea and Samaria, and indeed to the ends of the earth.' As he said this he was lifted up while they looked on, and a cloud took him from their sight. They were still staring into the sky when suddenly two men in white were standing near them and they said, 'Why are you men from Galilee standing here looking into the sky? Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven, this same Jesus will come back in the same way as you have seen him go there.

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm:

Ps 46:2-3,6-7,8-9

R/ God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

Second Reading:

Ephesians 1:17-23

He made Jesus to sit at his right hand in heaven.

May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a spirit of wisdom and perception of what is revealed, to bring you to full knowledge of him. May he enlighten the eyes of your mind so that you can see what hope his call holds for you, what rich glories he has promised the saints will inherit and how infinitely great is the power that he has exercised for us believers. This you can tell from the strength of his power at work in Christ, when he used it to raise him from the dead and to make him sit at his right hand, in heaven, far above every Sovereignty, Authority, Power, or Domination, or any other name that can be named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. He has put all things under his feet, and made him as the ruler of everything, the head of the Church; which is his body, the fullness of him who fills the whole creation.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation:

Mt 28:19-20

Alleluia, alleluia! Go and teach all people my gospel. I am with you always, until the end of the world.

Alleluia!

Gospel:

Luke 24:46-53

While blessing them, he was taken to heaven.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'You see how it is written that the Christ would suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that, in his name, repentance for the forgiveness of sins would be preached to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses to this. 'And now I am sending down to you what the Father has promised. Stay in the city then, until you are clothed with the power from on high.' Then he took them out as far as the outskirts of Bethany, and lifting up his hands he blessed them. Now as he blessed them, he withdrew from them and was carried up to heaven. They worshipped him and then went back to Jerusalem full of joy; and they were continually in the Temple praising God.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Prayers of the Faithful: Lord, hear our prayer

Communion Antiphon:

Mt 28:20

Behold, I am with you always, even to the end of the age, alleluia.